



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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**U.S. COURT SENTENCES FORMER G.E. EXECUTIVE
TO 15 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR INSIDER TRADING**

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that ANTHONY CHRYSIKOS, a former vice president of finance in the aircraft services division of General Electric Capital Corp. ("GE Capital"), was sentenced late yesterday in Manhattan federal court to 15 months in prison for participating in an insider trading scheme in which he tipped a friend to confidential, non-public information that GE Capital had entered into an agreement to acquire Heller Financial, Inc. ("Heller Financial"). This sentence follows CHRYSIKOS' October 22, 2002, guilty plea before United States District Judge JED RAKOFF.

According to the Information filed against CHRYSIKOS, as well as CHRYSIKOS' statements in connection with his guilty plea, in May 2001, as a result of his position of vice president of finance of GE Capital, CHRYSIKOS learned that GE Capital was contemplating the acquisition of Heller Financial. On July 27,

2001, three days prior to the July 30 public announcement of the transaction between GE Capital and Heller Financial, CHRYSIKOS passed information about the proposed acquisition to Michael Martello with the understanding that Martello would use the information to purchase securities. Later that same day, Martello placed a call to Citicorp Investment Services from Taipei, Taiwan, during which he placed an order to purchase 130 call options of Heller Financial common stock, with a \$40 strike price, expiring on October 31, 2001, for a total purchase price of \$11,015.78.

According to the Information, on July 30, 2001, GE Capital announced that it had entered into a definitive merger agreement to acquire Heller Financial for \$5.3 billion in cash, or \$53.75 per share. From its closing price of \$35 on July 29, 2001, the price of the common stock of Heller Financial rose approximately 49% to \$52.09 by the close of the trading day on July 30, 2001, according to the Information.

According to the Information, on July 30, 2001, the day GE Capital announced the acquisition of Heller Financial, Martello placed an order from Taipei, Taiwan to sell 130 call options of Heller Financial. These options were sold for \$168,274.87, yielding a total profit of \$157,259.09.

According to the Information, between the period of August 2001 through October 2001, CHRYSIKOS and Martello shared the profits of their unlawful trading activity.

In October 2002, Martello pled guilty to conspiracy to

commit insider trading and insider trading. He was sentenced on February 19, 2003, principally to 8 months in prison.

CHRYSIKOS, 39, lives in Edgewater, New Jersey.

Martello, 35, resides in Whitestone, New York.

Mr. COMEY praised the investigative efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and thanked the United States Securities and Exchange Commission for its assistance.

Assistant United States Attorney KIM A. BERGER is in charge of the prosecution.

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